TOP SECRET

Annex 19

116 Mw

Memorandum of Conversation

Had on Monday, October 6, 1947.

Participants: Mr. W. D. Allen, Counselor, British Embassy; Mr. Edward Wailes, BC; Mr. Raymond A. Hare, SOA.

Subject: Scope of proposed conversations

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Mr. Allen called to say that he had communicated the Department's informal views to the Foreign Office regarding the relative importance of the military side of the proposed discussions as compared with the political and economic, and also the exclusion of Greece and Turkey. He said he had now received a communication from the Foreign Office agreeing that the military talks would be considered as of equal importance with the political and economic. The Foreign Office had stated that it had not intended that Greece and Turkey should be rigidly excluded from the conversations, since it agreed that any strategic review would naturally include those countries. On the other hand, there was nothing particular which the British had in mind to bring up regarding these two countries. In the case of Turkey, the only question of importance seemed to be that of the reduction of Turkey's armed forces, which was a subject on which agreement between the British and American points of view seemed to have been largely reached. Regarding Greece, we already knew each other's minds. In the circumstances, the British did not intend sending a specialist to deal with either Greece or Turkey unless it was our intention to raise some unforeseen subject regarding those countries.

Regarding persons coming from London for the conference, Mr. Allen said that the Foreign Office would be represented by Michael Wright and Mr. Greenhill, and the armed forces by Major General Hollis, Chief of Staff of the Chief of Staff's Committee (unconfirmed.) He said that Mr. Wright would be leaving for Washington on October 10, and was planning to remain here about two weeks.

Raymond A. Hare - SOA

cc: BC Mr. Wailes

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